

ABSTRACT

AL-1A-069

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. ---(148)  
Artemas, Pennsylvania vicinity  
Public/private

1767 (milestone first set 1902)  
1767 (mound of earth)

Milestone No. ---(148) and its earth mound on Lick Ridge, mark a point on Mason and Dixon's West Line about 4300 feet west of the preceding Milestone No. ---(147) and about 140.184 horizontal miles west of the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of their 230.228-mile West Line, the boundary later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. The milestone was among those recovered during the course of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary, and although an original of 1767, was first set in 1902, in the center of a large, low original/1767 mound of earth which measures about 18 feet in diameter by about 2 feet high and remains in excellent condition. The milestone is an embellished oolitic limestone post with a low pyramidal top, and was quarried and carved in England. It is in fairly good condition, unaltered, measures about 12 inches square and stands about 1 1/2 feet above the mound. On the national and state levels, this milestone and mound are significant primarily as among the 135 original Mason and Dixon monuments and 42 1/2 mounds in the thematic series of some 248 markers still defining their West Line. Locally, as one of only 8 original monuments and 9 mounds among the total of 37 markers still defining the present Allegany/Fulton-Bedford-Somerset county boundary, No. ---(148) is also significant as among the diminishing number of objects and structures with an identifiable relationship to the colonial and Civil War heritage of these counties.

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME** BOUNDARY MARKERS ALONG THE MASON-DIXON LINE (THEMATIC GROUP)  
HISTORIC (Mason and Dixon's) WEST LINE, Heap of Earth and (wood) Post Marked  
W on the west side  
AND/OR COMMON  
MASON-DIXON LINE: Milestone No. --- (1900-03 Resurvey Monument No. 148)

**2 LOCATION** (not for publication)  
STREET & NUMBER off the west side of Green Ridge Road/LR-05005, <sup>on</sup> Lick Ridge  
CITY, TOWN Artemas ☒ VICINITY OF MD: 6 / PA: 9  
STATE Pennsylvania COUNTY MD: Allegany / PA: Bedford

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	N/A	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED		<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED		<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS		<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED		<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED		<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> NO		<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: state boundary marker

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY** (monument and mound only; see Thematic Group NR nomination form)  
NAME State of Maryland / Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE, zip code

☐ VICINITY OF

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION** (see Thematic Group NR nomination form)  
and surrounding property ownership list) Liber #: Folio #:  
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS** (also see Thematic Group NR nomination form)  
TITLE Allegany Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

AL-IA-069 entered 6/2/81

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

STATE  
Maryland 21401

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT (mound)	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED <sup>mound &amp; monument</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE (mound)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD (monument)	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Milestone No. ---(148)/<sup>and its mound</sup> on Lick Ridge, mark a point on Mason and Dixon's West Line about 4300 feet west of the preceding Milestone No. ---(147) on Green Ridge and about 140.184 horizontal miles west of the northeast corner of Maryland. The original wood Post and "Heap of Earth" were listed in their journal as 143 miles and 14 chains from the Post Marked West in Mr. Bryan's Field (A. Hughlett Mason's transcription, 1969, p. 195). <sup>set as a substitute for the wood Post long since gone,</sup> The milestone/is an original of 1767, in fairly good condition, unaltered, <sup>measures about 12 inches square,</sup> stands about 1½ feet above the mound, and was first set in 1902 during the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. The mound, an original Mason and Dixon "Heap of Earth" erected in 1767, is in excellent shape, well preserved, measures about 18½ feet in diameter by about 2¼ feet high at the center.

The area here is <sup>sparsely settled,</sup> nearly all wooded, with narrow open stretches following the road, meandering along many ridges. The site is within Election District 3 of Allegany County, MD, and Mann Township of Bedford County, PA; about 1¼ miles southeast of the small settlement of Artemas, <sup>PA</sup> at a point about 850 feet due west of Green Ridge Road/LR-05005 at the Line, and about 500 feet southwest of the cluster of houses on the west side of the road; in the northeast edge of a <sup>and a few feet north of an old east-west barbed wire fence across part of the mound</sup> deciduous woods. It cannot be seen from the road, and not easily until closeby; and although the mound is intact the milestone has obviously been a target, hardly protected despite its being out of the way.

The milestone, as with all original Mason and Dixon West Line monuments, is an oolitic limestone post with a low pyramidal top, quarried and carved in England, and said to have originally measured about 12 inches square by about 4 feet or more in length, cut to stand about 3 feet high with the base left rough-cut for setting into the ground. The distinguishing embellishments are the vertical fluting with horizontally-fluted margins on all four sides, and the Roman capital letters P on the north side facing Pennsylvania and M on the south side facing Maryland, each V-sunk in the center of a plain shallow circle panel near the top. Presumably this milestone was among those excess original monuments found by the Resurvey in the vicinity of Clear Spring, MD, and added to the mound in 1902 in order to restore the visual integrity of the boundary in this area. It is firmly in place but slightly out of plumb. The P is indistinct and its circle panel, fluting and margins on the north side are gone; a chunk has been gouged out of the letter M, though most margins and some of the fluting and circle panel on the south side remain; no fluting or margins remain on the east or west sides; the top planes and some fluting remain. There are chips along all edges (especially the northeast) <sup>the top planes</sup> and/or corners; bullet holes on each side and weathering of all surfaces. The mound is grassy/weedy but kept cut somewhat.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY (see Thematic Group NR nomination form for full descriptions of the original Mason and Dixon monuments and mounds)

**8 SIGNIFICANCE****PERIOD****AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW**

<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) boundary surveying
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

**SPECIFIC DATES** 1767 (milestone & mound) **BUILDER/ARCHITECT** Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon  
 1902 (milestone first set) **SURVEYORS**

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Milestone No. ---(148) and the earth mound are significant on the national and state levels primarily as among the 135 original Mason and Dixon monuments and 42½ mounds in the thematic group series of some 248 markers still defining their 230.228-mile West Line, the boundary later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. The area was preliminarily surveyed in 1766; site marked with an and/earth mound with post in 1767, permanently marked in 1902 with an original milestone of 1767 during the course of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. Locally, as one of only 8 original monuments and 9 mounds among the total of 37 markers now along the present Allegany/Fulton-Bedford-Somerset county boundary, No. ---(148) is also significant as among a diminishing number of objects and structures with a visually identifiable relationship to the colonial and Civil War heritage of these counties.

**HISTORY AND SUPPORT** (see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

**CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY**

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

(see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

Quadrangle name: Artemas (Maryland-Pennsylvania-West Virginia), USGS 7.5 minute series (topographic), 1950 photorev. 1974, scale 1:24000  
 NOTE: LOCATION NOT SHOWN ON QUADRANGLE (see 1900-03 map)  
 UTM reference: zone 17, easting 720\_\_\_, northing 4399\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION N/A

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE Maryland COUNTY Allegany

STATE Pennsylvania COUNTY Bedford

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Alice Martin (volunteer, Mason and Dixon's West Line boundary marker surveyor)

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust and Maryland Geological Survey

DATE

9/19/81 (site surveyed)

STREET &amp; NUMBER

14308 Mount Avenue

TELEPHONE

(301) 472-2128

CITY OR TOWN

Phoenix

STATE

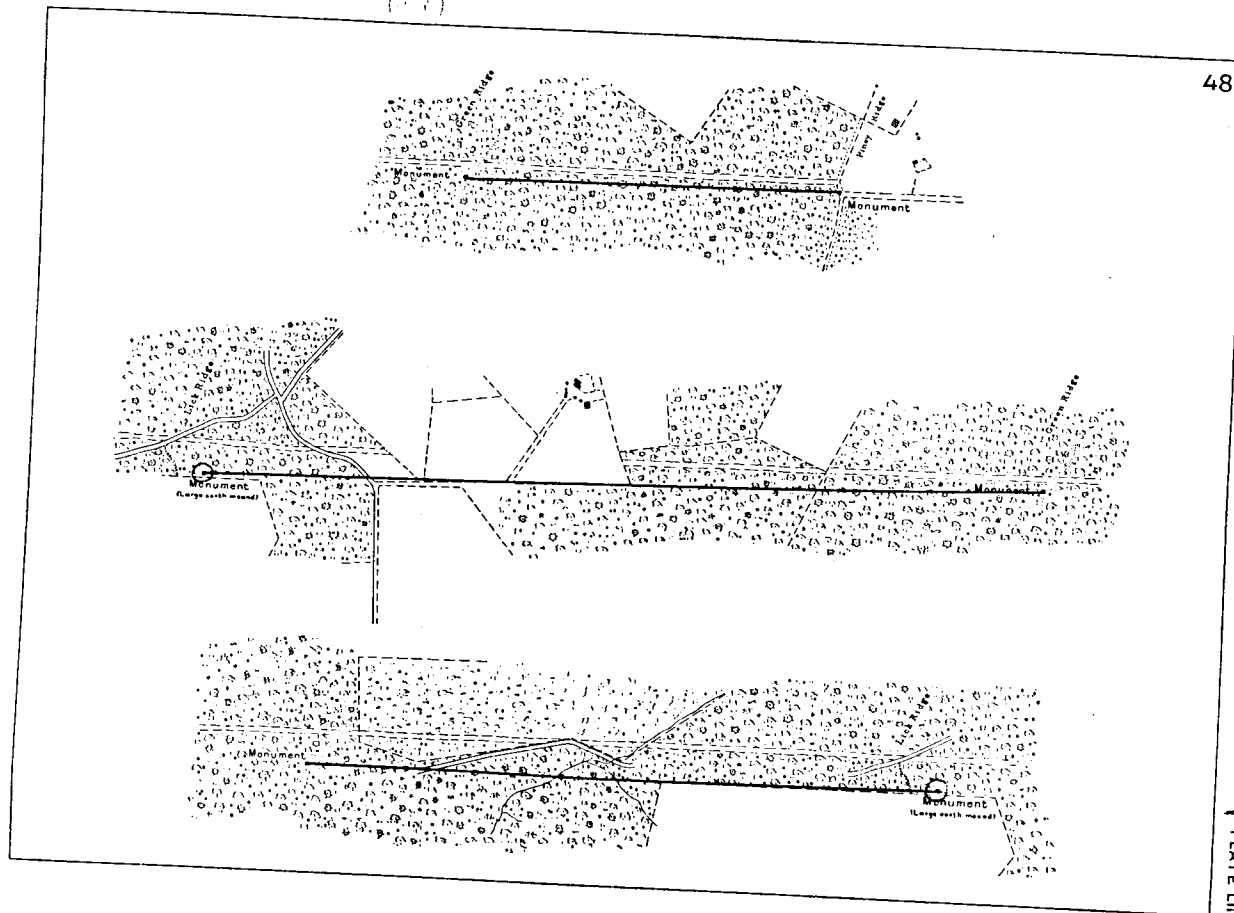
Maryland 21131

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
 The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
 (301) 267-1438

HARVARD GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, VOL. III. BALTIMORE: JOHNS HOPKINS PRESS, 1908.



48

RESURVEY OF MASON-DIXON LINE.

(147)

(148)

PLATE LII.

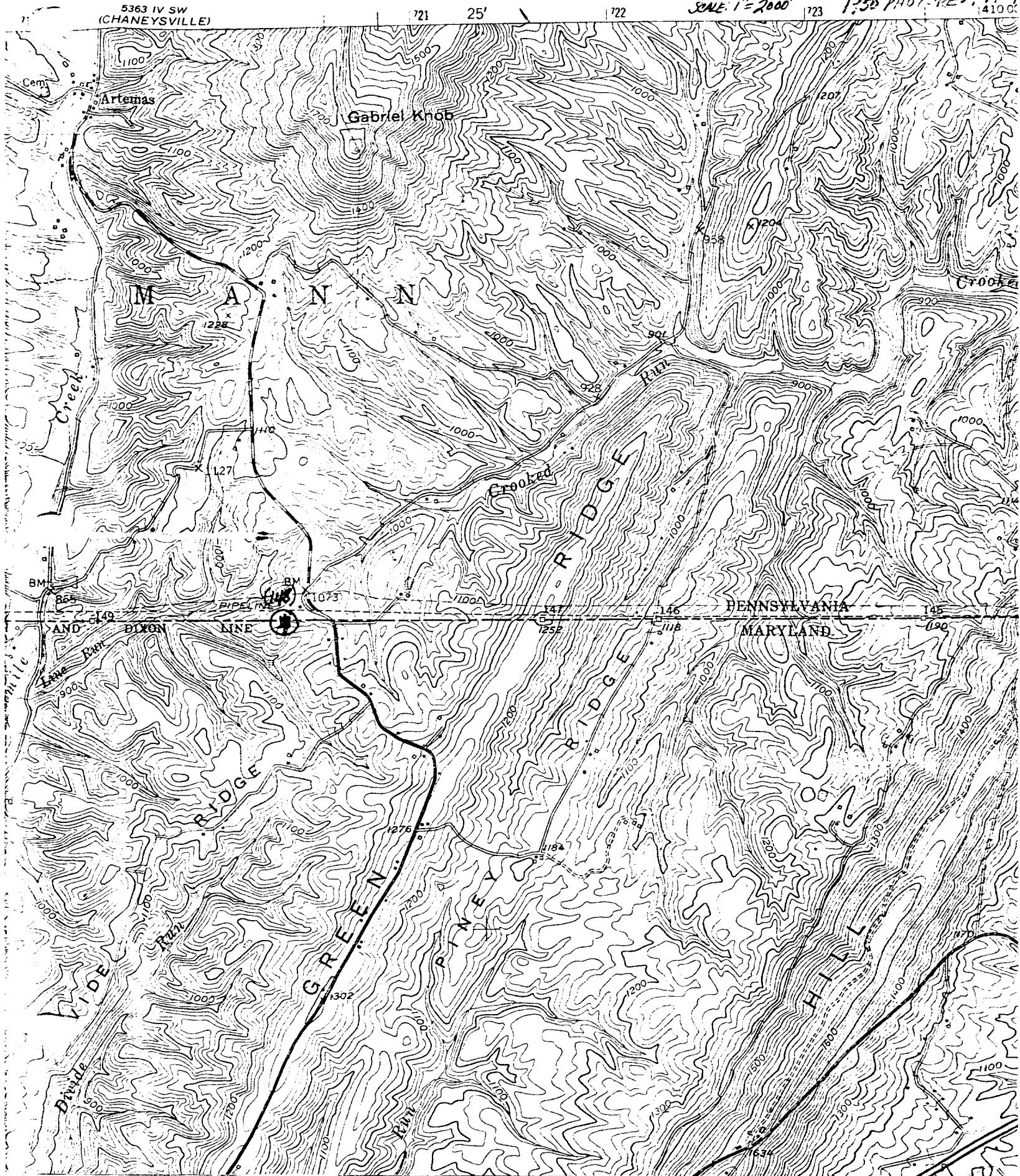
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MASON DIXON'S GLEST LINE. MILESTONE NO. — (148)

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MASON EDIXON WEST LINE: MILESTONE — (148)

ARTEMAS QUAD  
MARYLAND-PENNSYLVANIA  
7.5 MINUTE SERIES  
NW/4 PAW PAW 15' Q  
1974 PHOTOREV. 1974  
4100

SCALE: 1"=2000'







MHT

AL-IA-069

MASON EDIXON<sup>1</sup> WEST LINE; MILESTONE - (148)

ORIGINAL (1767 FIRST SET 1902) IN LARGE HOUND OF EARTH (1767)

SE CORNER (M/-)

PHOTO: ALICE MARTIN 9/19/81 (1981.34.28A)



MH 7

AL-IA-169

MASON & DIXON'S WEST LINE: MILESTONE — (148)  
ORIGINAL (1767 FIRST SET 1902), IN LARGE HOUND OF EARTH  
NW CORNER (P/-) (1767)

PHOTO: ALKE MARTIN 9/19/81 (1981.34.26A)